

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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R 161103Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6656

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC

CDR USSAG NKP

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 7822

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, LA

SUBJECT: CONTINUED ARRIVAL OF LPF PERSONNEL AND CARGO

REF: VIENTIANE 7777

1. LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT (LPF) DELIVERIES OF MEN AND MATERIEL CONTINUED NOVEMBER 15, WITH FOUR RUSSIAN FLIGHTS ARRIVING VIENTIANE AND EIGHT CHINESE FLIGHTS ARRIVING LUANG PRABANG. (NOTE: PARA 3 OF REFTTEL SHOULD BE AMENDED TO INDICATE THAT LPF ARRIVALS IN LUANG PRABANG NOVEMBER 14 WERE 113 INSTEAD OF 70; UNOFFICIAL TOTAL OF LPF IN LUANG PRABANG SHOULD THEREFORE HAVE BEEN 516 VICE 473.)

2. MORNING ARRIVALS NOVEMBER 15 IN VIENTIANE CONSISTED OF 80 MEN, OF WHOM 76 WERE IN DARK GREEN UNIFORMS AND CARRIED AN AK-47 EACH, TWO IN LIGHT GREEN UNIFORMS CARRYING ONE AUTOMATIC PISTOL EACH, AND TWO UNARMED MEN IN LIGHT GREEN UNIFORMS. (XAT LAO REPORTS NOVEMBER 16 THAT

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TWO OF THE PERSONNEL ON BOARD WERE DOCTORS, POSSIBLY

REFERRING TO THE TWO UNARMED MEN.) CARGO CONSISTED OF NINE METRIC TONS OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, INCLUDING WOODEN CRATES PAINTED GREEN AND BELIEVED TO CONTAIN ROCKET-PROPELLED GRENADE LAUNCHER AMMUNITION, MISCELLANEOUS WOODEN CRATES AND SACKS OF RICE. AFTERNOON ARRIVALS IN VIENTIANE CONSISTED OF 76 PERSONNEL, OF WHOM NINE WERE FEMALES IN NATIVE LAO DRESS, 46 MALES IN DARK GREEN UNIFORM CARRYING ONE AK-47 EACH, 14 MEN IN LIGHT GREEN UNIFORMS CARRYING AN AUTOMATIC PISTOL EACH, ONE MAN CARRYING A B-40 ROCKET LAUNCHER, AND 6 UNARMED MEN. ALSO, TEN METRIC TONS OF CARGO--INCLUDING CRATES, LEATHER SUITCASES, FURNITURE AND RICE--WERE UNLOADED.

3. ARRIVALS IN LUANG PRABANG CONSISTED OF 100 MEN IN MILITARY UNIFORM. THE CARGO CONSISTED OF 100 AK-47S, 5 PISTOLS, 10 B-40 ROCKET LAUNCHERS, 75 CASES OF AK-47 AMMUNITION, 30 CASES OF B-40 AMMUNITION, 6 CASES OF HAND GRENADES, 4 CASES OF TNT, 5 CASES OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES, 50 HOSPITAL BEDS, AS WELL AS VARIOUS FURNITURE, COOKING WARES AND FOODSTUFFS.

4. WITH THESE ARRIVALS, UNOFFICIAL TOTAL OF LPF ARRIVALS IS NOW 1,369 IN VIENTIANE AND 616 IN LUANG PRABANG.

5. COMMENT: COUNTING THE NUMBER SET BY THE PROTOCOL FOR THE JOINT POLICE FORCE AND JCIA STAFF, AND HYPOTHESIZING THAT THE PROTECTIVE MILITARY BATTALION IN VIENTIANE WILL NUMBER 600 MEN AND THE TWO COMPANIES IN LUANG PRABANG 300, THEN THE LPF IS AUTHORIZED TOTAL OF 2,560 IN ALL CATEGORIES IN BOTH VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG. IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS NO RESTRICTION IN THE PROTOCOL ON THE INFLUX OF LPF NON-MILITARY PERSONNEL INTO EITHER CITY.
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